

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 IO-10 ISO-00 SP-02 AID-05 EB-07 NSC-05

CIEP-01 TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-04 OMB-01 CEA-01 SAM-01

NEA-10 SAB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 USIA-06 SSO-00 ACDA-05 COME-00

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R 201531Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0216

AMEMBASSY LISBON

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION GENEVA

AMCONSUL LOUANDA

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

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FOR THE SECRETARY

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, EEC, CSCE, PO, GW

SUBJECT: FOREIGN MINISTER ANTUNES VISITS GERMANY

BEGIN SUMMARY: PORTUGAL'S FOREIGN MINISTER MELO ANTUNES ARRIVED MAY 19 ON A TWO-DAY VISIT TO THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY. THE VISIT HAS GONE WELL THUS FAR WITH NO SURPRISES. DISCUSSIONS HAVE CENTERED AROUND PORTUGUESE RELATIONSHIPS WITH THE EEC AND ECONOMIC AID MATTERS. END SUMMARY

1. FONMIN ANTUNES ARRIVED ON THE WHITMONDAY HOLIDAY TO BEGIN A TWO-DAY VISIT TO THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC; THE FIRST EUROPEAN VISIT HE HAS MADE SINCE ASSUMING OFFICE (LISBON 2152). THE FOLLOWING ACCOUNT OF THE VISIT (WHICH IS STILL IN PROGRESS) HAS BEEN PROVIDED BY THE FRG'S COUNTRY DIRECTOR FOR IBERIAN PENINSULA AFFAIRS.

2. ANTUNES' INITIAL APPOINTMENT WAS A PRIVATE ONE AND A HALF HOUR MEETING WITH FONMIN GENSCHER WHICH DEALT WITH PORTUGAL'S SERIOUS ECONOMIC SITUATION.

3. AFTER THIS PRIVATE DISCUSSION, THE FOREIGN MINISTERS JOINED THEIR RESPECTIVE DELEGATIONS TO DISCUSS FUTURE RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN PORTUGAL AND THE COMMON MARKET. ANTUNES SUGGESTED THAT THE AIM SHOULD BE A PORTUGUESE FREE TRADE ASSOCIATION WITH THE EEC; PORTUGAL IS NOT REQUESTING ASSOCIATION OR INTEGRATION WITH THE COMMON MARKET. FONMIN ANTUNES SUGGESTED THAT A SPECIAL CONFERENCE BE CONVENED IN JULY OR IN THE EARLY FALL TO SETTLE PORTUGAL'S FUTURE RELATIONSHIPS WITH THE EEC IN THE POLITICAL, ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL FIELDS. ANTUNES STATED THAT THIS PROPOSAL IS AN UNOFFICIAL ONE SINCE THE PORTUGUESE GOVERNMENT AS SUCH HAS NOT AS YET TAKEN A FINAL POSITION ON THE MATTER.

4. FONMIN GENSCHER STATED THAT THE FRG WAS IN PRINCIPLE IN FAVOR OF HOLDING SUCH A CONFERENCE EVEN THOUGH JULY MIGHT BE UNREALISTICALLY SOON. THE FRG WAS ANXIOUS TO DO EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO ASSIST PORTUGAL. CONFIDENTIAL

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GENSCHER SUGGESTED, HOWEVER, THAT PORTUGAL COME UP WITH CONCRETE DETAILS AS TO EXACTLY WHAT IT HAD IN MIND IN SUGGESTING THE HOLDING OF SUCH A CONFERENCE.

5. DURING THE OFFICIAL DINNER WHICH TOOK PLACE ON THE EVENING OF THE 19TH, FONMIN ANTUNES HEARD MANY COMPLAINTS FROM GERMAN INDUSTRIALISTS ABOUT THE SECURITY OF GERMAN INVESTMENTS IN PORTUGAL. AS A

RESULT, THE SUBJECT OF GERMAN INVESTMENT WAS FIRST ON THE AGENDA FOR TUESDAY MORNING'S DISCUSSIONS. FONMIN ANTUNES STATED THAT THE PORTUGUESE GOVERNMENT WOULD PUBLISH A CODE OF FOREIGN INVESTMENT WITHIN ONE MONTH'S TIME, WHICH WILL ESTABLISH THE PARAMETERS FOR ALL FOREIGN INVESTMENT. ANTUNES SAID HE CONSIDERED THIS TO BE A VERY IMPORTANT STEP WHICH HE HOPED WOULD REASSURE FOREIGN INVESTORS.

6. SPEAKING AT THAT DINNER, FONMIN ANTUNES GAVE EXPLICIT ASSURANCE THAT THE NEW REGIME IN LISBON WILL FULFILL ITS OBLIGATIONS WITHIN THE NATO ALLIANCE.

7. THE EURO-ARAB DIALOGUE WAS DISCUSSED TUESDAY MORNING. FONMIN GENSCHER EXPLAINED THE FRG'S "BALANCED NEAR-EASTERN POLICY." FONMIN ANTUNES

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NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 USIA-06 SSO-00 ACDA-05 COME-00

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R 201531Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0217

AMEMBASSY LISBON

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AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 BONN 08100

DEVELOPED THE THEME THAT COOPERATION BETWEEN ARAB
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MONEY, EUROPEAN TECHNICAL SKILLS AND PORTUGUESE LABOR
COULD PROVE ADVANTAGEOUS. FONMIN GENSCHER ASKED IF
THERE HAD BEEN ANY ARAB INVESTMENTS IN PORTUGAL. ANTUNES
REPLIED THAT NOTHING HAD BEEN REALIZED THUS FAR
ALTHOUGH POSSIBILITIES EXISTED.

8. CSCE WAS THE NEXT SUBJECT TREATED. LITTLE REAL
DISCUSSION TOOK PLACE SINCE THE FRG'S POSITION AND
PORTUGAL'S WERE BASICALLY SIMILAR. BOTH PARTIES WERE
IN FAVOR OF THE FREE EXCHANGE OF IDEAS AND INFORMATION.
PORTUGAL LISTENED SYMPATHETICALLY TO THE GERMAN POSITION
ON THE PEACEFUL CHANGE OF FRONTIERS. BOTH THE FRG
AND PORTUGAL CONSIDERED THE MALTESE PROPOSAL TO BE TOO
FAR REACHING AND THE FRENCH-ITALIAN PROPOSAL TO BE A
MORE REALISTIC SUGGESTION. FONMIN ANTUNES SUGGESTED
THAT OBSERVERS FROM THE ARAB MEDITERRANEAN COUNTRIES
SHOULD TAKE PART IN STAGE THREE. CONCERNING A FOLLOW-
UP CONFERENCE, PORTUGAL AGREED THAT A TWO-YEAR TRIAL
PERIOD WAS DESIRABLE

9. FONMIN GENSCHER ASKED FOR ANTUNES' VIEW OF THE
FUTURE OF THE FORMER PORTUGUESE COLONIES. THE
PORTUGUESE FONMIN DESCRIBED THE CURRENT PROBLEM IN
ANGOLA WHERE THREE AFRICAN POLITICAL PARTIES ARE
STRIVING FOR POWER. WITH PATIENCE AND PERSEVERANCE
PORTUGAL HOPED TO FIND A SOLUTION TO THIS DIFFICULTY.
LOOKING TO THE FUTURE, ANTUNES SAID THAT ANGOLA,
MOZAMBIQUE, ZAMBIA AND TANZANIA SHOULD WORK TOGETHER.
BECAUSE OF ITS ECONOMIC POTENTIAL, ANGOLA WOULD BE
THE STRONGEST OF THE FOUR. BY ACTING THROUGH ANGOLA,

PORTUGAL HOPED TO BE ABLE TO PLAY AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN THAT PART OF THE WORLD.

10. BILATERAL ECONOMIC RELATIONS WERE THEN DISCUSSED. PORTUGAL STILL HAS NOT COME UP WITH SATISFACTORY DETAILED PROPOSALS CONCERNING HOW TO USE THE 70 MILLION DM IN CAPITAL ASSISTANCE WHICH THE FRG HAS MADE AVAILABLE (BONN 6043). DETAILED DISCUSSIONS ARE TO BE HELD IN THE NEAR FUTURE TO DECIDE WHICH PROJECTS WILL BE ASSISTED.

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11. IN THIS CONNECTION, OUR FONOFF SOURCE NOTED THAT PORTUGAL HAD RECENTLY ASKED FOR AID OVER AND BEYOND THE 70 MILLION DM ALREADY AVAILABLE. THIS WOULD BE TO ASSIST CONSTRUCTION IN THE FIELD OF SOCIAL AFFAIRS. MINISTER OF CONSTRUCTION BKT SIC BKT FERNANDES HAD VISITED BONN TWO WEEKS AGO TO DISCUSS HOW SUCH PROJECTS MIGHT BE FINANCED. AFTER HIS RETURN TO PORTUGAL, FERNANDES ANNOUNCED THAT THE FRG HAD PROMISED TO GIVE 100 MILLION DM FOR THIS PURPOSE. OUR FONOFF SOURCE EMPHASIZED THAT NO SUCH PROMISE HAD BEEN MADE. HOWEVER, ONE MEMBER OF FONMIN ANTUNES' DELEGATION, THE VICE-PRESIDENT FOR THE CONSTRUCTION FUND BKT SIC BKT, WILL BE HAVING DISCUSSIONS WITH THE FRG'S HOUSING MINISTRY ON THAT SUBJECT THIS AFTERNOON (MAY 20).

12. FONMINS GENSCHER AND ANTUNES DECIDED IN ADVANCE HOW THEY WOULD HANDLE THE SCHEDULED PRESS CONFERENCE. IT WENT SMOOTHLY AND NO UGLY QUESTIONS WERE ASKED. FONMIN ANTUNES IS SEEING CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT TUESDAY AFTERNOON. THIS WILL BE FOLLOWED BY HIS FINAL APPOINTMENT, ONE WITH PRESIDENT SCHEEL. HILLENBRAND

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Disposition Event:
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